

REMARKS

The Office Action of 19 January 2011, has been received and reviewed. Claims 23, 24, 29 and 30 have been allowed. Claims 1-8, 10-22, and 25-27 have been rejected. Clarifying amendments are to be made to the application as previously set forth. All amendments and claim cancellations are made without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(E)

Claims 1-8 and 10-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,327,578 to Linehan. The applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 has been cancelled, with prejudice thereby rendering its rejection moot. Claims 2-8 and 10-16 have been amended to render them dependent, either directly or indirectly on claim 23. As noted above, claim 23 was allowed in the Examiner's last Office Action. It follows that claims 2-8 and 10-16 presently depend from an allowed claim and therefore should be allowable for the same reasons which underlie the allowability of claim 23, and further in view of the additional subject matter set out in each individual claim. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-8 and 10-16 are presently in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-8 and 10-16 is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §103:

Claims 17 to 22, 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being obvious over the combination of Linehan and Flitcroft et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 17-22 and 25-26 have been amended to render them dependent, either directly or indirectly, from Claim 23. Given that Claim 23 has been allowed, each of these claims now depends from an allowed claim. In view of this consideration, applicants respectfully submit that these claims should now be allowable for the same reasoning which supports the allowability of

claim 23 and furthermore, in view of the additional subject matter set forth in each claim. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 17-22 and 25-26.

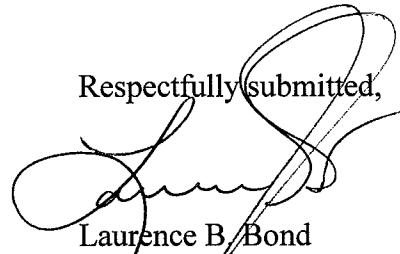
NEWLY ADDED CLAIMS:

Newly added claims 31-50 all depend from allowed claim 24. Given the allowance of claim 24, applicants respectfully submit that claims 31-50 should all be allowable for the same reasoning which supports the allowability of claim 24, further including the additional subject matter contained in each claim. Examination of claims 31-50 is therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION:

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested. An early notice of allowance thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,


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